

# Supplementary Material of

## **Structural and lattice-dynamical properties of Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> under compression: a comparative study with rare-earth and related sesquioxides**

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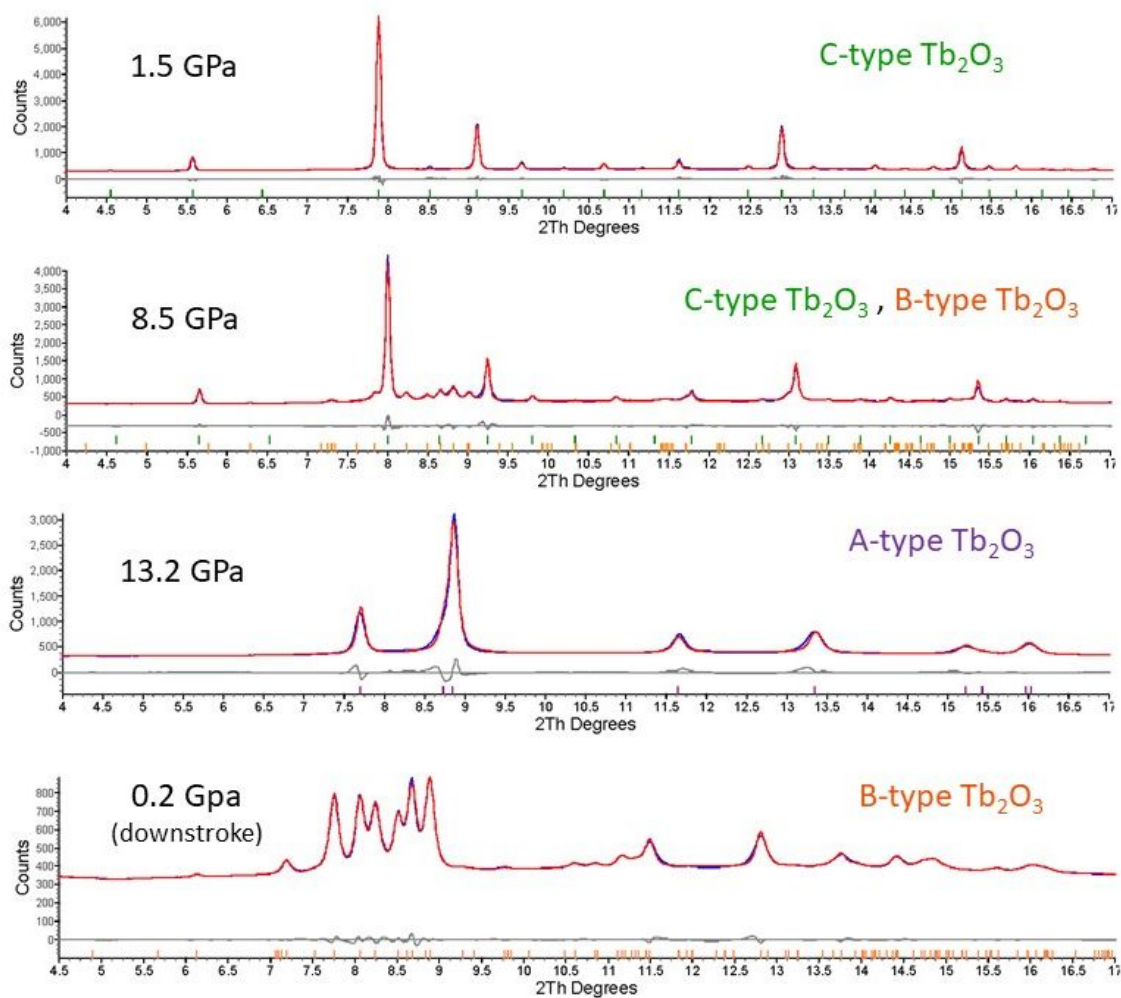
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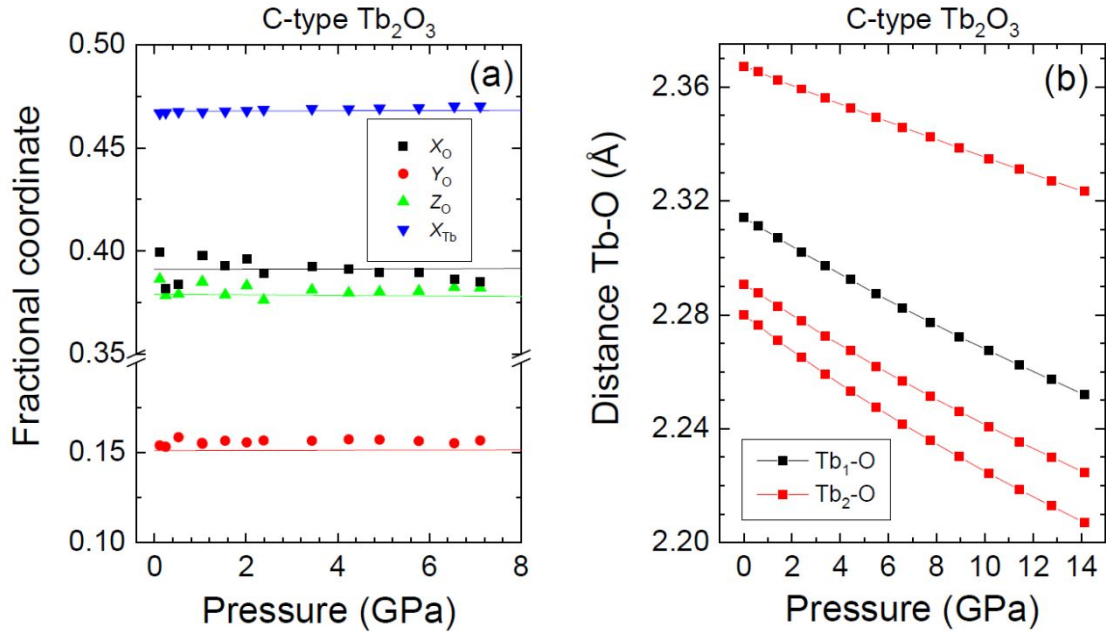
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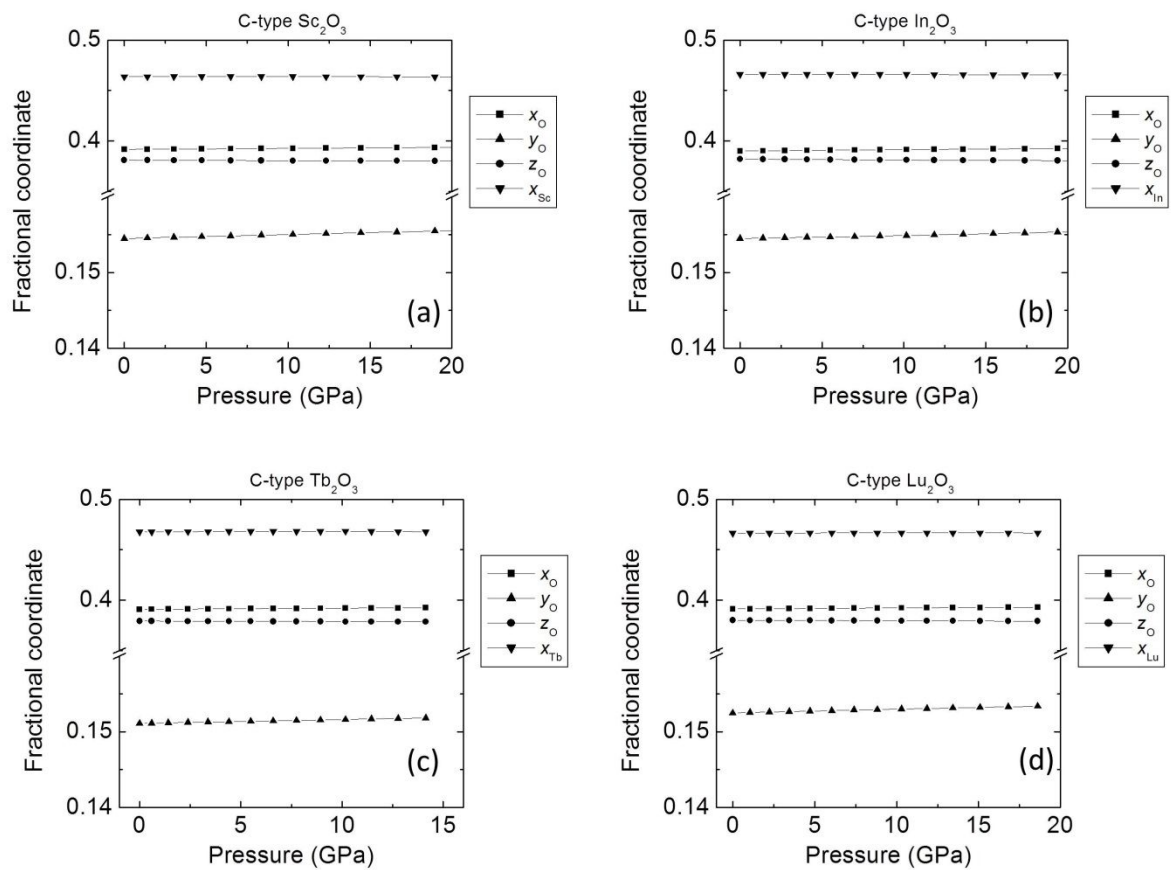
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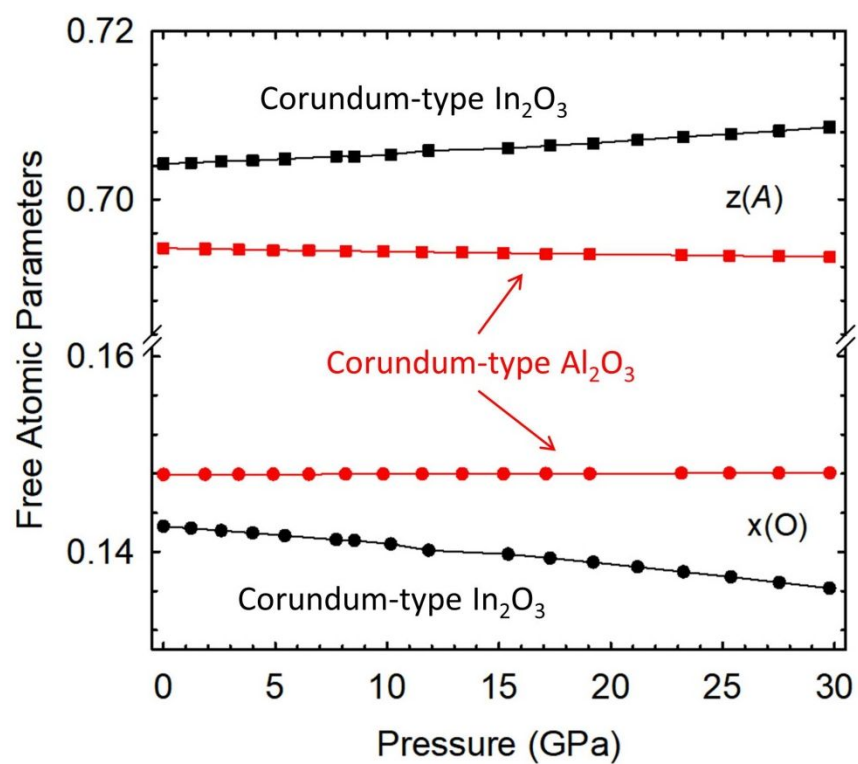
**Figure S1:** Selected examples of calculated and difference profiles obtained from full-pattern matching refinements to the experimental XRD scans. For C-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ , Rietveld refinements were carried out. For the high-pressure polymorphs, the Pawley/Le Bail methods were used.



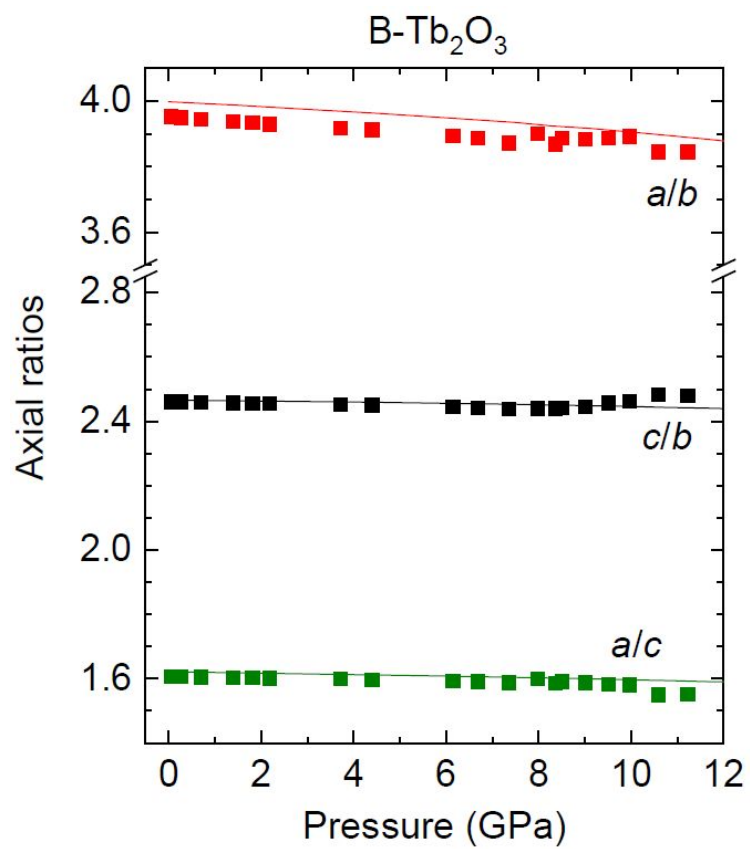
**Figure S2:** (a) Experimental (symbols) and theoretical (lines) pressure dependence of the four free atomic parameters in C-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ . The calculated error for the experimental values is smaller than (of the order of) the size of the symbols for Tb (O) coordinates. (b) Theoretical pressure dependence of the Tb-O distances in C-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ .



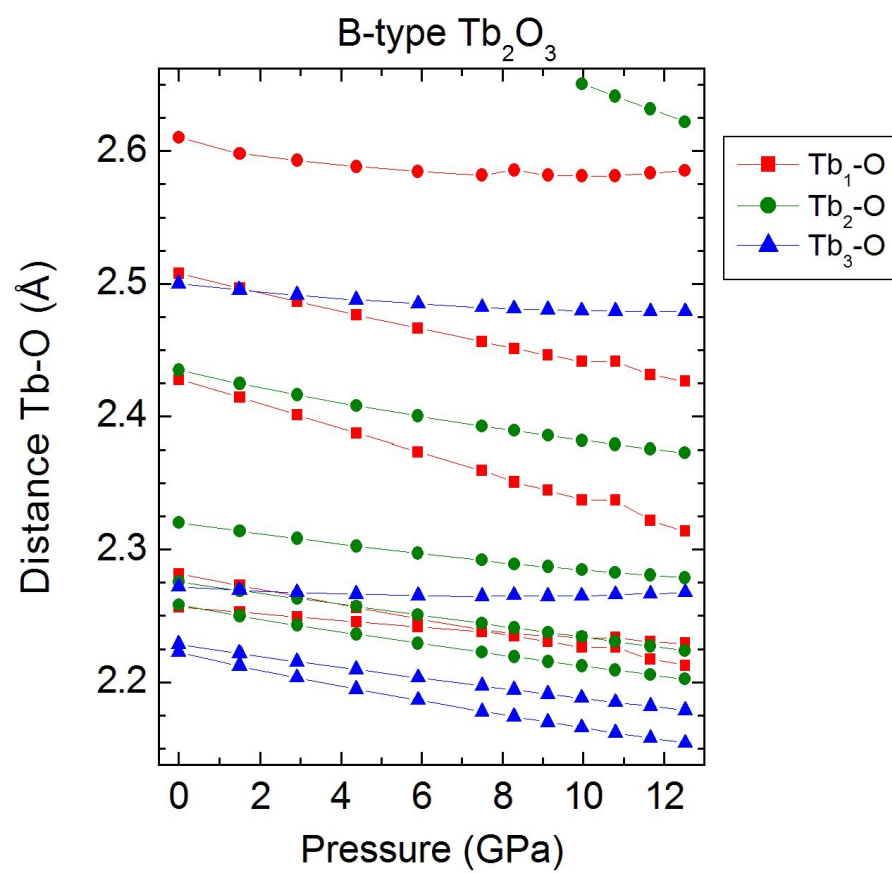
**Figure S3:** Theoretical pressure dependence of the four free atomic parameters in several C-type sesquioxides: (a)  $\text{In}_2\text{O}_3$ , (b)  $\text{Sc}_2\text{O}_3$ , (c)  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ , and (d)  $\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3$ .



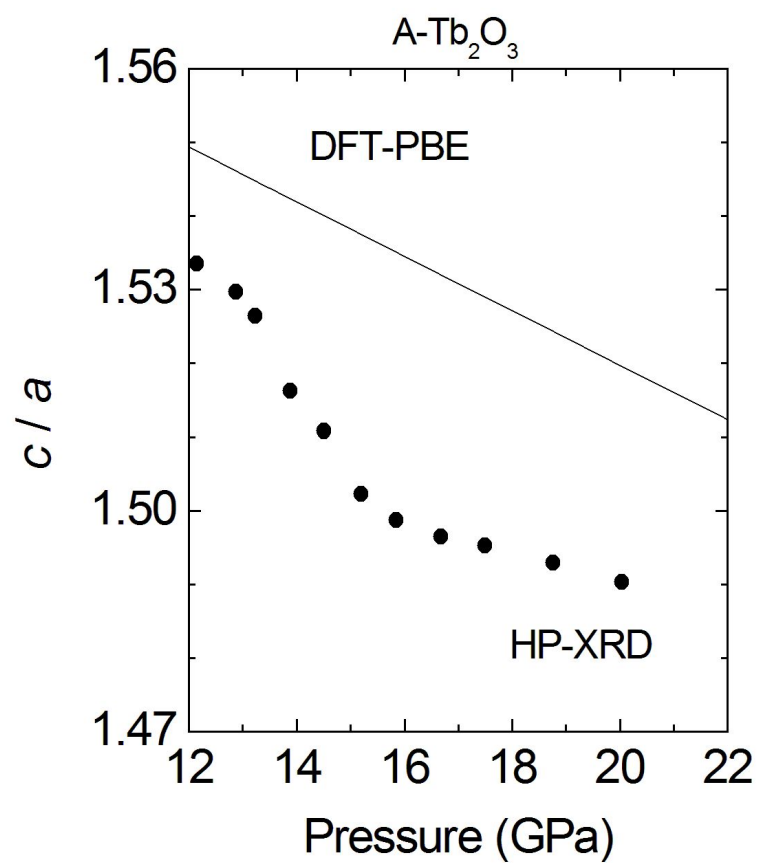
**Figure S4:** Theoretical pressure dependence of the four free atomic parameters in corundum-type  $\text{In}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ .



**Figure S5:** Experimental (symbols) and theoretical (lines) pressure dependence of the *c/b*, *a/b* and *a/c* axial ratios in B-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

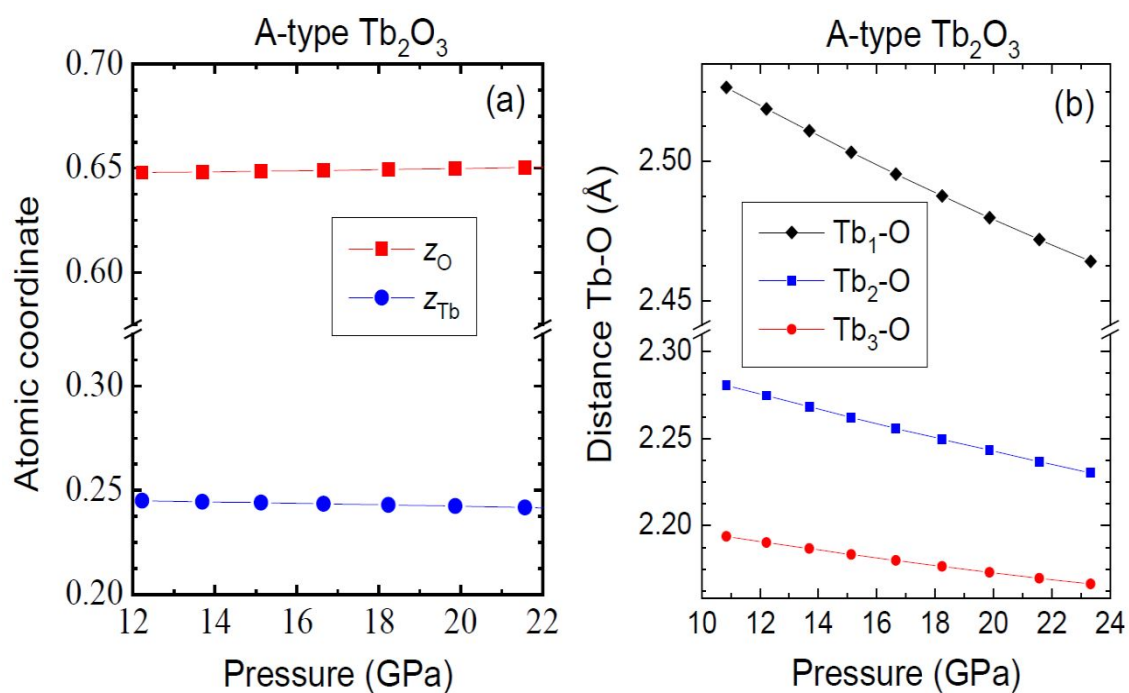


**Figure S6:** Theoretical pressure dependence of the Tb-O distances in B-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ .

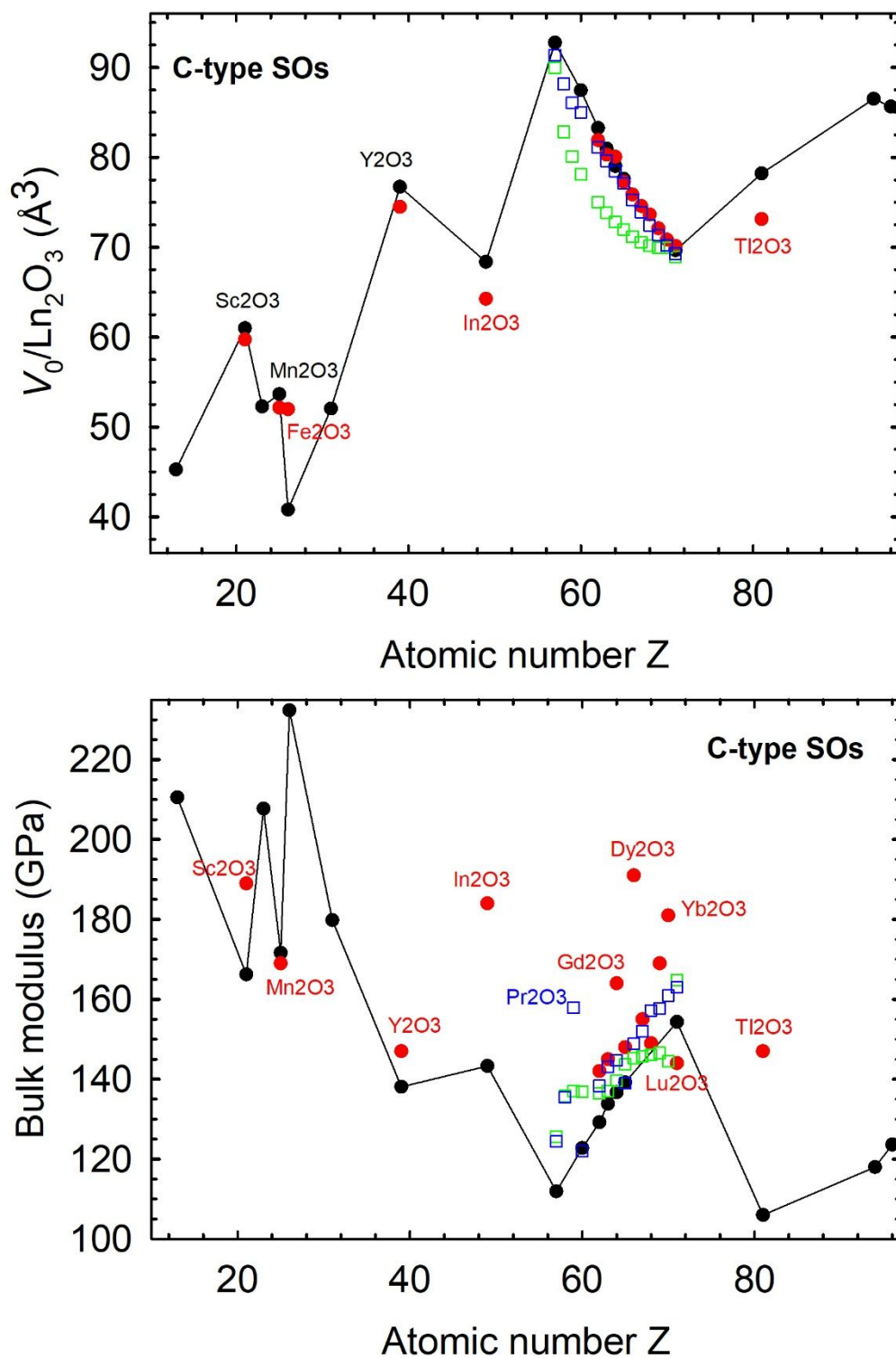


**Figure S7:** Experimental (symbols) and theoretical (lines) pressure dependence of the  $c/a$  axial ratio in A-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

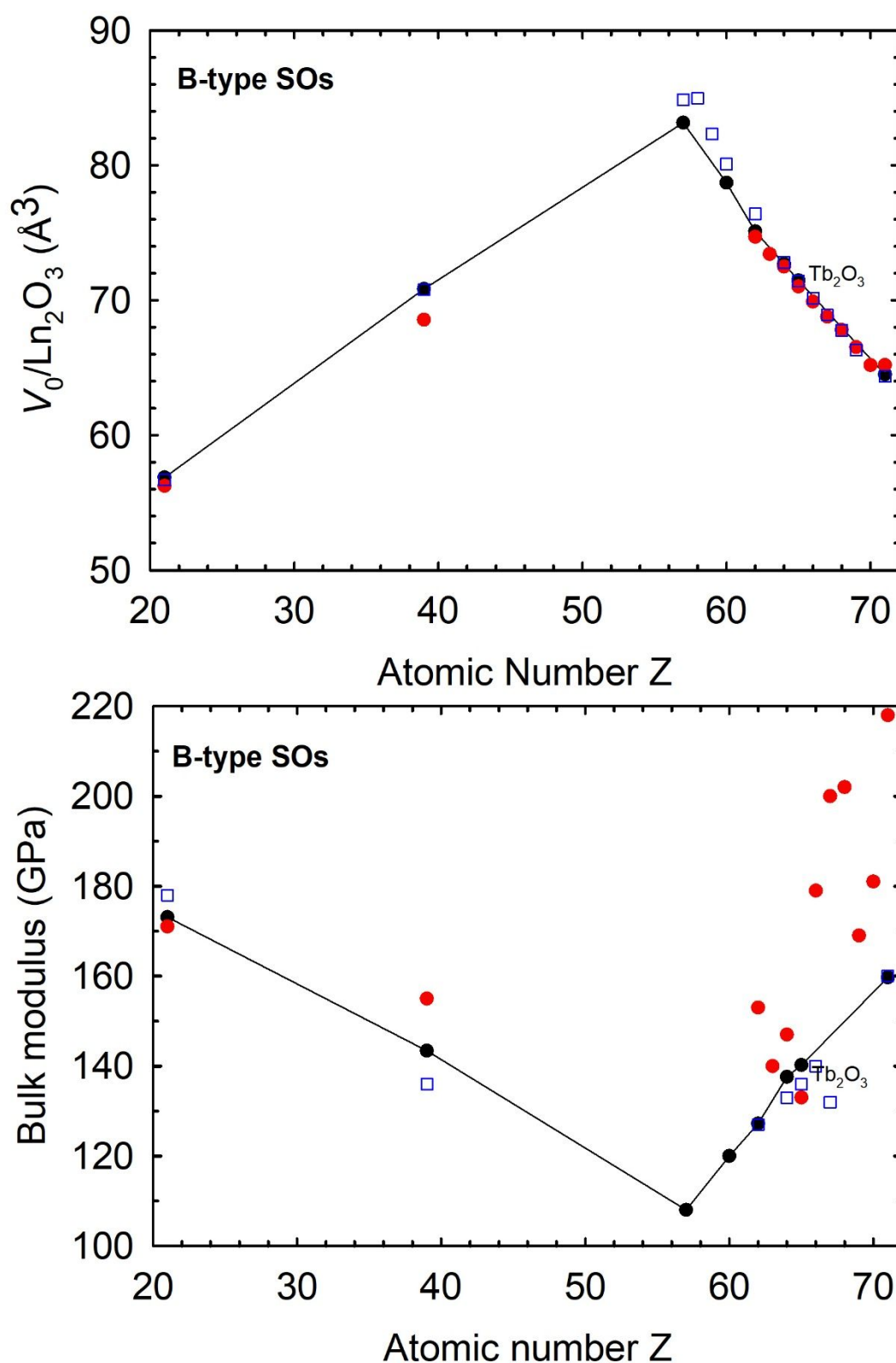




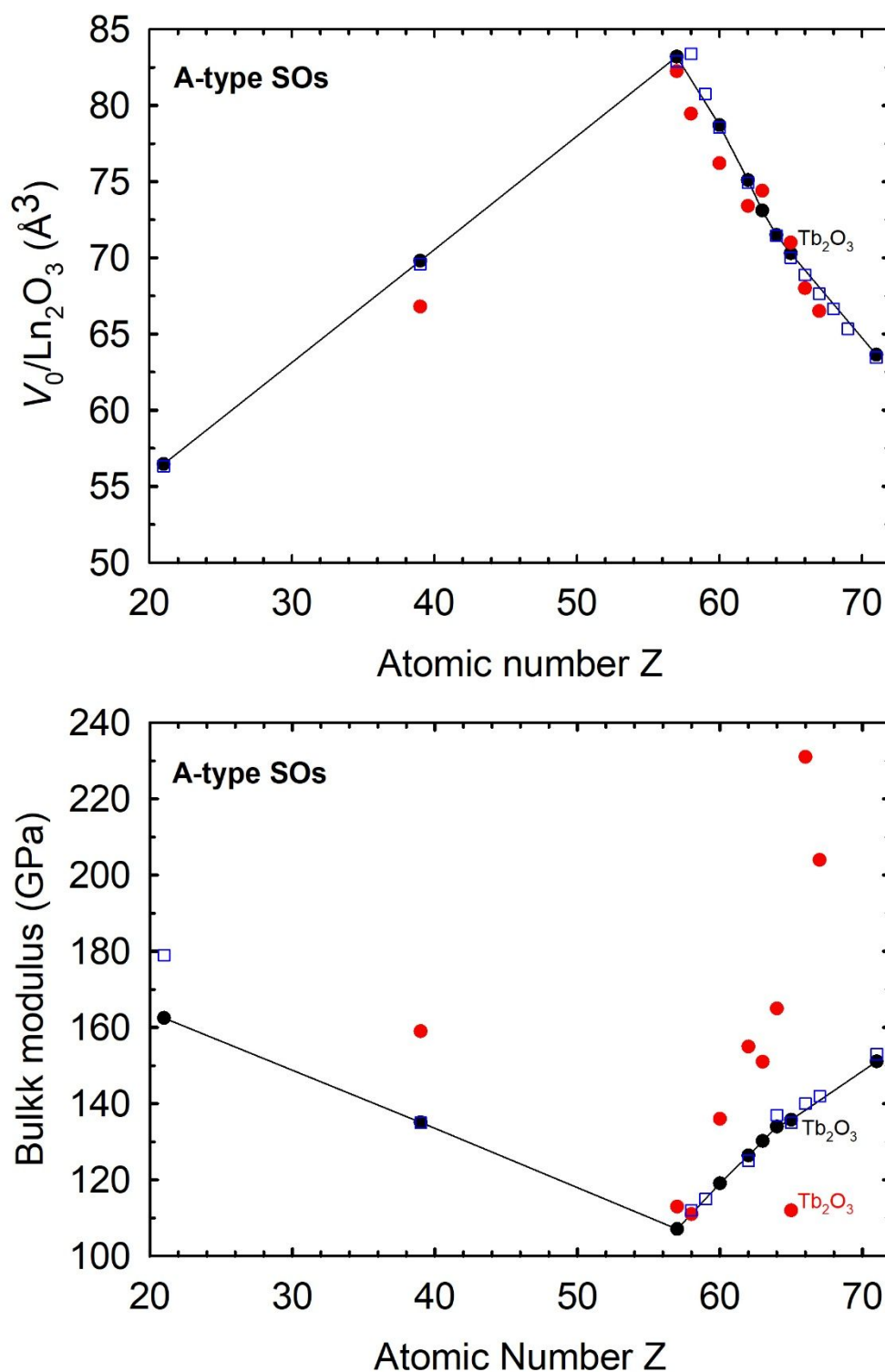
**Figure S8:** (a) Theoretical pressure dependence of the two free atomic parameters of A-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ . (b) Theoretical pressure dependence of the Tb-O distances in A-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ .



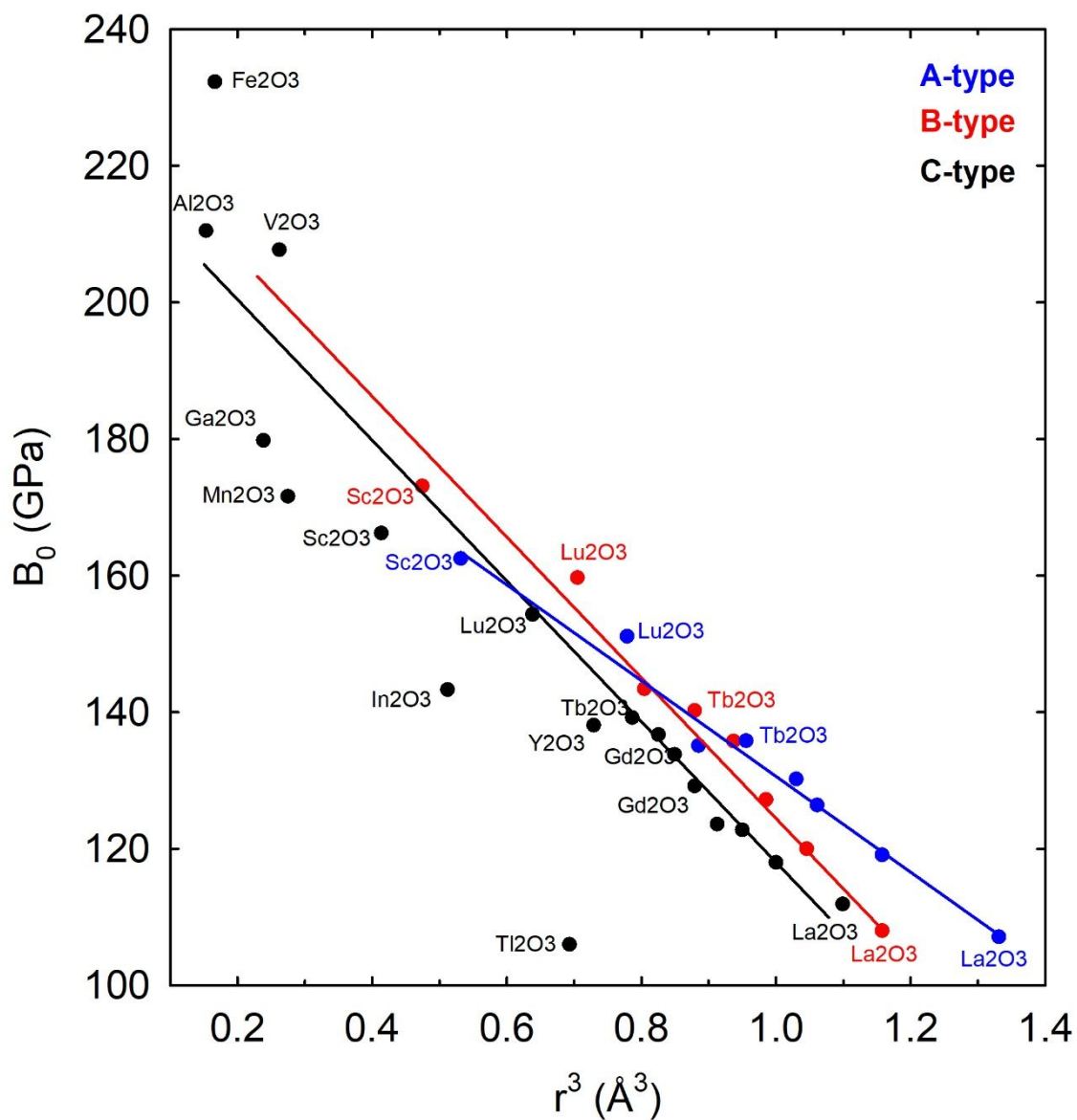
**Figure S9:** Circles represent the experimental (red, from Table S1) and theoretical (black, from Table S2) volume per formula unit (a) and bulk modulus (b) of C-type sesquioxides vs. the atomic number Z. Theoretical data of Ref. 34 with WC-GGA (green open squares) and GGA+U (blue open squares) are also shown for comparison.



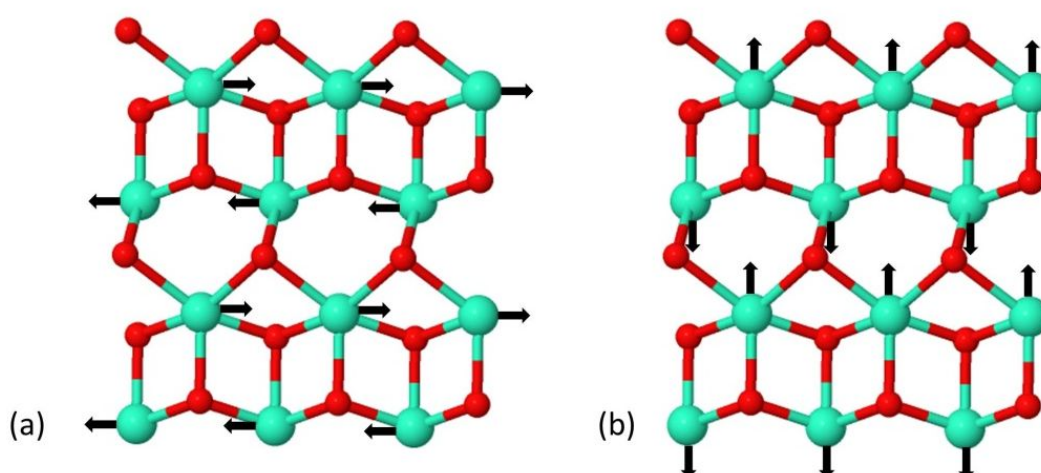
**Figure S10:** Circles represent the experimental (red, from Table S1) and theoretical (black, from Table S2) volume per formula unit (a) and bulk modulus (b) of B-type sesquioxides vs. the atomic number Z. Theoretical data of Ref. 32 (blue open squares) are also shown for comparison.



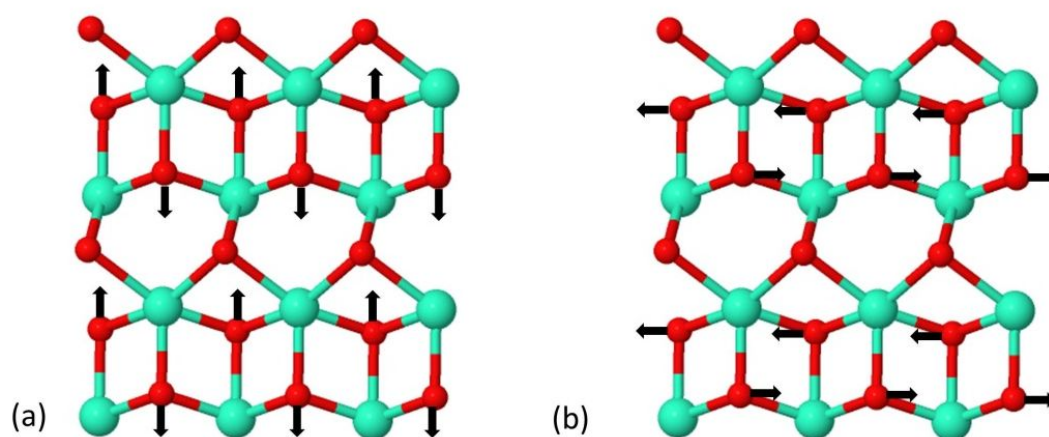
**Figure S11:** Circles represent the experimental (red, from Table S1) and theoretical (black, from Table S2) volume per formula unit (a) and bulk modulus (b) of A-type sesquioxides vs. the atomic number Z. Theoretical data of Ref. 32 (blue open squares) are also shown for comparison.



**Figure S12:** Theoretical (symbols) bulk modulus of C-type (black), B-type (red), and A-type (blue) RE-SOs as a function of the third power of the cation ionic radius ( $r^3$ ). Cation ionic radii have been taken from Ref. <sup>119</sup> for valence 3+ with 6-, 6.5-, and 7-fold coordination for C-, B-, and A-type crystalline structures.



**Figure S13:** Atomic vibrations of the (a) low-wavenumber  $E_g^1$  mode and (b) low-wavenumber  $A_{1g}^1$  modes in A-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Big blue atoms are Tb and small red atoms are O. The vertical direction corresponds to the hexagonal c axis and the horizontal direction is perpendicular to the (110) direction of the hexagonal unit cell. Figures have been drawn with the help of J-ICE program [40].



**Figure S14:** Atomic vibrations of the (a) high-wavenumber  $A_{1g}^2$  mode and (b) high-wavenumber  $E_g^2$  modes in A-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Big blue atoms are Tb and small red atoms are O. The vertical direction corresponds to the hexagonal c axis and the horizontal direction is perpendicular to the (110) direction of the hexagonal unit cell. Figures have been drawn with the help of J-ICE program [40].

**Table S1:** Experimental data of the equation of state for  $\text{Ln}_2\text{O}_3$  and related sesquioxides having a C-type (or bixbyite) phase, a B-type and an A-type phase. Compounds are ordered on increasing volume per formula unit of the different phases.

	Phase	$V_0$ ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	$B_0$ (GPa)	$B_0'$	Ref.
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	51.97			[1]
$\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	52.2	169	7.3	[2]
$\text{Sc}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	59.7	189	4	[3]
	B (exp)	55.1	216	5 (fixed)	
	C (exp)	60.8	154	7 (fixed)	[4]
	B (exp)		180	4 (fixed)	
	C (exp)	59.6	198	4 (fixed)	[5]
	C (exp)	59.6	223	1.65	
	B (exp)	56.2	171	4 (fixed)	
	B (exp)	57.0	141.6	4.8	
$\text{In}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	64.9	194	4.8 (fixed)	[6]
	C (exp)	64.7	179	5.15	[7]
	C (exp)	64.3	184	4 (fixed)	[8]
$\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	70.1	214	9	[9]
	B (exp)	65.2	218	2.3	
	C (exp)	70.1	114	1.7	[10]
	C (exp)	70.1	144	6.7	[11]
$\text{Yb}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	70.8	181	7.3	[12]
	B (exp)	65.2	181	1.3	
$\text{Tm}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	72.1	149	4.8	[13]
	B (exp)	66.5	169	4 (fixed)	
$\text{Tl}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	73.1	147	5	[14]
$\text{Er}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	73.5	200	8.4	[15]
	B (exp)	67.8	202	1.0	
	C (exp)	73.3	136	5.9	[11]
	C (exp)	73.6	148.8	4.02	[16]
$\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	74.4	146	5.5	[11]
	C (exp)	74.5	147	4 (fixed)	[17]
	B (exp)	68.6	155	4 (fixed)	
	A (exp)	66.8	159	4 (fixed)	
	B (exp)	69.0	159	4 (fixed)	[18]
	A (exp)	67.8	156	4 (fixed)	

	Phase	$V_0$ ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	$B_0$ (GPa)	$B_0'$	Ref.
$\text{Ho}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	74.6	206	4.8	[19]
	B (exp)	68.8	200	2.1	
	A (exp)	66.5	204	3.8	
	C (exp)		155	4 (fixed)	[20]
	A (exp)		249	4 (fixed)	
$\text{Dy}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	75.9	191	2.8	[21]
	B (exp)	69.9	179	4.2	
	A (exp)	68.0	231	3.5	
$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	77.3	148	2.1(4)	This work
	B (exp)	71.0	133	4 (fixed)	
	A (exp)	71.0	112	4 (fixed)	
$\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)		188	4 (fixed)	[22]
	A (exp)		160	4 (fixed)	
	C (exp)		134	4 (fixed)	[23]
	B (exp)	72.5	147	4 (fixed)	
	A (exp)		174	4 (fixed)	
	C (exp)	79.0	125	4.7	[11]
	C (exp)	80.1	164	4	[24]
$\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	80.3	145	4	[25]
	A (exp)	74.4	151	4	
	C (exp)	80.0	115	5.9	[11]
	C (exp)		140	4 (fixed)	[20]
	A (exp)		155	4 (fixed)	
	B (exp)	73.4	140	4 (fixed)	[26]
$\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	C (exp)	81.9	142	4	[27]
	A (exp)	72.1	224	1.5	
	C (exp)	81.7	116	4 (fixed)	[11]
	A (exp)	73.0	130	6.9	
	C (exp)	81.6	149	4 (fixed)	[28]
	B (exp)	74.7	153	4 (fixed)	
	A (exp)	73.4	155	4 (fixed)	
$\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	A (exp)		136	4 (fixed)	[29]
	A (exp)	76.2	142	4 (fixed)	[30]
$\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3$	A (exp)	79.5	111	4.7	[31]
$\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$	A (exp)	82.2	113	6.0	[11]



**Table S2:** Theoretical data of the equation of state for some  $Ln_2O_3$  and related sesquioxides having a C-type (or bixbyite) phase, a B-type and an A-type phase. Compounds are ordered on increasing volume per formula unit of the different phases.

	Phase	$V_0$ ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	$B_0$ (GPa)	$B_0'$	Ref.
$Al_2O_3$	C (the)	45.3	210.5	4.1	This work
$Ga_2O_3$	C (the)	52.1	179.8	4.4	This work
$V_2O_3$	C (the)	52.3	207.7	4.2	This work
$Mn_2O_3$	C (the)	53.7	171.6	4.8	This work
$Sc_2O_3$	C (the)	61.0	166.2	4.2	This work
	B (the)	56.9	173.1	3.9	This work
	A (the)	56.5	162.5	4.1	This work
$In_2O_3$	C (the)	68.4	143.3	4.7	This work
$Lu_2O_3$	C (the)	69.7	154.3	4.3	This work
	B (the)	64.5	159.7	3.6	This work
	A (the)	63.6	151.1	4.0	This work
$Tl_2O_3$	C (the)	78.2	106	5.1	This work
$Y_2O_3$	C (the)	76.7	138.1	4.2	This work
	B (the)	70.8	143.4	3.1	This work
	A (the)	69.8	135.1	3.8	This work
$Tb_2O_3$	C (the)	77.5	139.2	4.3	This work
	C (the)	77.3	145.2		[31]
	B (the)	71.5	140.2	3.3	This work
	B (the)	71.4	137	3.5	[32]
	A (the)	70.3	135.8	3.9	This work
	A (the)	70.0	136	3.5	[32]
$Gd_2O_3$	C (the)	79.0	136.7	4.4	This work
	B (the)	72.7	137.6	3.0	This work
	A (the)	71.5	134.0	3.8	This work
$Eu_2O_3$	C (the)	81.0	133.8	4.4	This work
	B (the)	74.5	135.8	2.0	This work
	A (the)	73.1	130.2	4.0	This work
$Sm_2O_3$	C (the)	83.2	129.2	4.5	This work
	B (the)	75.1	127.2	3.8	This work
	A (the)	75.1	126.4	3.8	This work
$Nd_2O_3$	C (the)	87.5	122.7	4.5	This work
	B (the)	78.7	120.0	3.8	This work
	A (the)	78.7	119.1	3.9	This work
$La_2O_3$	C (the)	92.8	111.9	4.3	This work
	B (the)	83.2	108.0	3.8	This work
	A (the)	83.2	107.1	3.9	This work

**Table S3:** Experimental zero-pressure wavenumbers (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and linear pressure coefficients (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}\text{GPa}^{-1}$ ) for the Raman-active modes in several C-type SOs.

<i>Sym</i>	$\text{In}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{a}}$		$\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{b}}$		$\text{Tm}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$		$\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{d}}$		$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{e}}$	
	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$
$F_g^1$	108	0.07	97	0.09	99	0.01			95	-0.25
$F_g^2$	118	0.4					128	-0.02	106	-0.24
$A_g^1$	131	1.0	119	0.54	120	0.5			119	0.68
$F_g^3$	152	1.4	136	0.80					134	0.87
$E_g^1$	169	0.8	146	0.77			163	0.67	144	0.78
$F_g^4$	205	1.3								
$F_g^5$	211	3.0								
$F_g^6$	306	2.4								
$F_g^7$			332	2.51			317	2.24		
$E_g^2$					337	2.66	330	2.77	320	2.86
$F_g^8$	365	4.3								
$A_g^2$	306	4.0	350	2.61						
$F_g^9$					383	3.66	377	3.60	367	3.86
$E_g^3$	396	3.3								
$F_g^{10}$			395	3.02						
$A_g^3$	495	3.7			425	4.32	426	5.58	405	4.33
$F_g^{11}$	467		457	3.50						
$F_g^{12}$	513		503	4.46	484	4.65	469	4.63	452	4.76
$F_g^{13}$										
$A_g^4$										
$E_g^4$	590	5.2	598	2.06						
$F_g^{14}$	628	6.0	618	4.21	603	4.51	594	4.51	576	4.76

<sup>a</sup>Ref. 8, <sup>b</sup>Ref. 9, <sup>c</sup>Ref. 13, <sup>d</sup>Ref. 35, <sup>e</sup>This work.

**Table S4:** Theoretical zero-pressure wavenumbers (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and linear pressure coefficients (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}\text{GPa}^{-1}$ ) for the Raman-active modes in several C-type SOs.

<i>Sym</i>	$\text{In}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{a}}$		$\text{Yb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{b}}$		$\text{Dy}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$		$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$		$\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$	
	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$
$F_g^1$	106	0.01			95.02	0.12	95.05	-0.06	94.60	0.13
$F_g^2$	114	0.30			98.40	0.46	98.36	0.36	97.85	0.48
$A_g^1$	128	0.80	114	0.97	114.10	1.06	114.29	0.96	114.00	1.18
$F_g^3$	148	1.20			131.80	1.25	132.35	1.13	132.30	1.36
$E_g^1$	165	1.10			142.70	0.96	143.13	0.93	142.90	1.04
$F_g^4$	204	1.50			170.90	1.70	171.36	1.70	171.10	1.89
$F_g^5$	211	3.00			176.90	1.57	177.48	1.52	177.30	1.73
$F_g^6$	302	2.20			299.30	2.48	295.32	2.61	292.20	2.71
$F_g^7$	312	2.60			305.00	2.41	300.68	2.57	297.10	2.63
$E_g^2$	308	3.10	332	3.30	315.10	3.23	311.07	3.32	307.70	3.49
$F_g^8$	356	3.90			334.00	4.34	330.57	4.33	327.60	4.67
$A_g^2$	302	3.10			348.40	3.15	345.04	2.92	342.20	3.18
$F_g^9$	379	3.90	379	4.17	363.80	4.24	360.67	4.26	357.80	4.62
$E_g^3$	385	3.60			368.80	4.60	365.13	4.74	362.20	5.00
$F_g^{10}$	438	3.00			377.70	4.29	372.74	4.08	368.30	4.64
$A_g^3$	476	3.40	430	4.35	402.70	4.75	396.77	5.08	391.30	5.37
$F_g^{11}$	447	4.30			416.30	3.77	411.15	4.44	406.60	4.10
$F_g^{12}$	499	5.00	475	5.10	448.30	5.11	442.06	5.32	436.60	5.52
$F_g^{13}$	520	4.70			509.70	4.00	505.15	4.28	501.30	4.28
$A_g^4$	576	5.40			547.70	4.27	541.45	4.51	536.40	4.55
$E_g^4$	565	5.20			544.30	4.65	548.42	4.83	543.50	5.00
$F_g^{14}$	600	5.40	595	5.16	570.10	5.17	563.49	5.30	558.00	5.60

<sup>a</sup> Ref. 8, <sup>b</sup> Ref. 36, <sup>c</sup> This work

**Table S5:** Experimental zero-pressure wavenumbers (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and linear pressure coefficients (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}\text{GPa}^{-1}$ ) for the Raman-active modes in several B-type  $\text{Ln}_2\text{O}_3$  compounds.

<i>Sym.</i>	$\text{Lu}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{a}}$		$\text{Tm}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{b}}$		$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$		$\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{d}}$	
	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega_0$	$d\omega/dP$
$B_g^1$			69	0.66	70.3	0.70		
$A_g^1$			84	0.78	82.9	0.01	80	0.83
$B_g^2$	99	0.58	98	1.06	96.8	1.16	95	1.62
$A_g^2$	113	0.53	113	0.76	110.8	0.64	108	1.12
$A_g^3$			128	0.68				
$B_g^3$	128	0.29			122.9	0.13	118	1.15
$A_g^4$	167	0.73	155	1.83	156.3	0.88	144	1.67
$A_g^5$	174	1.56	171	1.94	172.8	2.14	175	3.03
$A_g^6$					216.5	1.8	219	2.32
$A_g^7$	285	0.81			261.8	-0.23	244	1.42
$A_g^8$	313	2.07	285	4.36	265.2	5.09	254	6.19
$B_g^4$			321	5.38	306.6	5.12	300	4.30
$B_g^5$	351	2.40			368.6	1.73		
$A_g^9$							345	5.30
$A_g^{10}$					391.7	3.77		
$B_g^6$	427	2.19	415	3.42				
$A_g^{11}$	458	2.53	451	3.61	426.2	2.43	421	3.3
$B_g^7$	464	2.41	479	2.71	446.0	2.95		
$A_g^{12}$	540	2.36	524	2.30	492.0	3.59	462	4.00
$A_g^{13}$			611	3.71			558	5.10
$A_g^{14}$	640	2.01	628	3.31	596.7	3.92	570	4.80

<sup>a</sup> Ref. 9, <sup>b</sup> Ref. 13, <sup>c</sup> This work <sup>d</sup> Ref. 21.

**Table S6:** Experimental wavenumbers (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and linear pressure coefficients (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}\text{GPa}^{-1}$ ) for the Raman-active phonon modes in several A-type  $\text{Ln}_2\text{O}_3$  compounds. Note that the frequencies correspond to different pressures.

<i>Sym.</i>	$\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{a}}$		$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{b}}$		$\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$		$\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{e}}$		$\text{La}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{f}}$	
	$\omega$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega$	$d\omega/dP$	$\omega$	$d\omega/dP$
$E_g^1$	174	0.97	116	1.40	108	0.89	107	1.03	104	0.90
$A_{1g}^1$	320	1.02	208	2.07	198	1.32	193	2.07	190	2.19
$A_{1g}^2$	527	2.10	490	2.32	450	1.43 <sup>c</sup> , 2.00 <sup>d</sup>	427	1.77	408	1.47
$E_g^2$	577	3.39	529	2.79	473	1.84 <sup>c</sup> , 3.40 <sup>d</sup>	437	3.33	418	3.23

<sup>a</sup> Estimated from Ref. 35 (22 GPa), <sup>b</sup> This work (11 GPa), <sup>c</sup> Ref. 28 (2 GPa), <sup>d</sup> Ref. 37 Hongo (3 GPa), <sup>e</sup> Ref. 30 (0 GPa), <sup>f</sup> Ref. 11 (0 GPa)

**Table S7:** Experimental wavenumbers at 0 GPa,  $\omega_0$  (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), for the Raman-active modes in several A-type  $Ln_2\text{O}_3$  compounds. Our theoretical wavenumbers for Raman-active modes in A-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$  at 0 GPa are noted in parenthesis.

	$\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{a}}$	$\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{b}}$	$\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{c}}$	$\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{d}}$	$\text{Pr}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{e}}$	$\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{f}}$	$\text{La}_2\text{O}_3^{\text{e}}$
<i>Sym.</i>	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$	$\omega_0$
$E_g^1$	153	99	(102)	106	107	104	103
$A_{1g}^1$	298	183	(185)	195	193	187	189
$A_{1g}^2$	481	465	(455)	447	427	406	400
$E_g^2$	502	498	(483)	469	437	413	409
$\Delta\omega$	21	33		22	10	7	8
$c/a$	1.617 <sup>g</sup>	1.577 <sup>g</sup>		1.572	1.567	1.558	1.557

<sup>a</sup> Estimated from Ref. 35, <sup>b</sup> Estimated from this work, <sup>c</sup> Estimated from Ref. 28, <sup>d</sup> Ref. 30, <sup>e</sup> Ref. 38, <sup>f</sup> Ref. 39, <sup>g</sup> Theoretical values at 0 GPa from Ref. 33.

**Table S8:** Theoretical wavenumbers  $\omega_0$  (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) at 0 GPa for the vibrational modes in A-type  $\text{Tb}_2\text{O}_3$ .

<i>Mode</i>	$E_g^1$	$A_{1g}^1$	$E_u^1$	$A_{2u}^1$	$E_u^2$	$A_{1g}^2$	$A_{2u}^2$	$E_g^2$
$\omega_0$	101.7	184.8	193.8	221.6	437.1	455.0	467.1	483.0

### Calculation of the experimental and theoretical compressibility tensor of B-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at different pressures

The isothermal compressibility tensor,  $\beta_{ij}$ , is a symmetric second rank tensor that relates the state of strain of a crystal to the change in pressure that induced the deformation [41]. The tensor coefficients for a monoclinic crystal with  $b$  as the unique crystallographic axis are:

$$\beta_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{11} & 0 & \beta_{13} \\ 0 & \beta_{22} & 0 \\ \beta_{13} & 0 & \beta_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

We have obtained the isothermal compressibility tensor coefficients for monoclinic B-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at several pressures using the IRE (Institute of Radio Engineers) convention for the orthonormal basis for the tensor:  $e_3||c$ ,  $e_2||b^*$ ,  $e_1||e_2 \times e_3$ . The tensor has been obtained with the finite Eulerian approximation as implemented in the Win\_Strain package [42].

The change of the  $\beta$  monoclinic angle (always perpendicular to the  $b$  axis) with pressure implies that, in this monoclinic compound, the direction of the  $a$  axis changes with pressure assuming both  $b$  and  $c$  axis constant. Furthermore, the departure of this monoclinic angle from 90° indicates that the direction of maximum compressibility is not exactly that of the  $a$  axis. Therefore, in order to evaluate the direction of maximum compressibility as a function of pressure we have calculated and diagonalized the experimental and theoretical isothermal compressibility tensor,  $\beta_{ij}$ , at different pressures.

The experimental and theoretical elements of this tensor at different pressures are reported in **Tables S9** and **S10**, up to 11.0 GPa, where the directions of the maximum, intermediate and minimum compressibility and the values of the compressibility along

those directions are given by the eigenvectors ( $e_{v_i}$ ,  $i=1-3$ ) and eigenvalues ( $\lambda_i$ ,  $i=1-3$ ), respectively.

First of all, we have to note that there is a reasonable good agreement between the experimental and calculated axial compressibilities ( $\beta_{ii}$  coefficients) at room pressure because  $\beta_{11} > \beta_{33} > \beta_{22}$  in both cases. This result shows that the compressibility along the  $a$ -axis is greater than those to the  $c$ -axis and  $b$ -axis. A diagonalization of the  $\beta_{ij}$  tensor at room pressure yields for our experiments the maximum, intermediate and minimum compressibilities  $3.6(4) \cdot 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.1(3) \cdot 10^{-3}$  and  $1.9(6) \cdot 10^{-3}$  GPa $^{-1}$ , respectively; whereas for the case of our calculations the obtained values for the compressibilities are  $3.7(4) \cdot 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.0(5) \cdot 10^{-3}$  and  $1.8(3) \cdot 10^{-3}$  GPa $^{-1}$ . These experimental (theoretical) results indicate that around 42% (43%) of the total compression at room pressure is being accommodated along the direction of maximum compressibility. Taking into account the eigenvector  $e_{v_1}$ , the major compression direction at zero pressure occurs in the (010) plane at the given angle  $\psi$  (see **Tables S9 and S10**) relative to the  $c$ -axis (from  $c$  to  $a$ ) or equivalently at an angle  $\theta$  relative to the  $a$ -axis (from  $a$  to  $c$ ). In particular, the experimental major compression direction at room pressure is at  $\theta = -19(5)^\circ$  from the  $a$ -axis whereas for our calculations is at  $-17(3)^\circ$  from the  $a$ -axis. The experimental direction of intermediate compressibility at room pressure, given by eigenvector  $e_{v_2}$ , is in the (010) plane perpendicular to the direction of maximum compressibility, and the direction of minimum compressibility at room pressure, given by eigenvector  $e_{v_3}$ , is along the  $b$  axis. On the other hand, in base of our *ab initio* calculations, the direction of intermediate compressibility at room pressure is along the  $b$ -axis, and the direction of minimum compressibility at room pressure is in the (0 1 0) plane perpendicular to the direction of maximum compressibility.

As regards the behavior of the experimental and theoretical compressibility tensor under pressure, it is found that  $\beta_{11} > \beta_{33} > \beta_{22}$  is maintained as pressure increases. This result shows that a greater compressibility along the  $a$ -axis is found under pressure and that  $b$ -axis is the one that undergoes less compression. The experimental (theoretical) compressibility along the  $a$ -axis,  $\beta_{11}$ , increases slightly (does not change) under pressure. The compressibilities along  $b$ -axis and  $c$ -axis,  $\beta_{22}$  and  $\beta_{33}$ , decrease as pressure increases.

The experimental (theoretical) maximum compressibility,  $\lambda_1$ , varies slightly (increases slightly) under compression. The intermediate and minimum compressibility,  $\lambda_2$  and  $\lambda_3$ , decrease with pressure. Under compression, the experimental (theoretical) direction of maximum compressibility,  $\theta$ , approaches (moves away slightly) the  $a$ -axis. In both cases, the direction of maximum compressibility under pressure is always closer to the  $a$ -axis than to the  $c$ -axis. To conclude, the experimental and theoretical direction of intermediate compressibility under pressure is in the (010) plane perpendicular to the direction of maximum compressibility, and the direction of minimum compressibility is along the  $b$ -axis.



**Table S9.** Experimental isothermal compressibility tensor coefficients,  $\beta_{ij}$ , and their eigenvalues,  $\lambda_i$ , and eigenvectors,  $ev_i$ , for B-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at several pressures. The results are given using the finite Eulerian method. The eigenvalues are given in decreasing value long a column.

$P(\text{GPa})$	0.0	2.0	4.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	11.0
$\beta_{11}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	3.2(3)	3.2(3)	3.2(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)
$\beta_{22}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	1.9(6)	1.2(6)	0.8(6)	0.7(6)	0.5(6)	0.4(6)	0.4(6)
$\beta_{33}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	2.5(3)	2.2(3)	2.0(3)	1.8(3)	1.7(3)	1.6(3)	1.5(3)
$\beta_{13}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	-0.62(12)	-0.65(11)	-0.68(11)	-0.71(11)	-0.73(11)	-0.75(11)	-0.76(11)
$\lambda_1$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	3.6(4)	3.5(3)	3.5(3)	3.6(3)	3.6(3)	3.6(3)	3.6(3)
$ev_1$ ( $\lambda_1$ )	(0.87,0,-0.49)	(0.90,0,-0.44)	(0.91,0,-0.40)	(0.92,0,-0.38)	(0.93,0,-0.36)	(0.94,0,-0.35)	(0.94,0,-0.34)
$\lambda_2$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	2.1(3)	1.9(3)	1.7(3)	1.5(3)	1.4(3)	1.3(3)	1.2(3)
$ev_2$ ( $\lambda_2$ )	(0.49,0,0.87)	(0.44,0,0.90)	(0.40,0,0.91)	(0.38,0,0.92)	(0.36,0,0.93)	(0.35,0,0.94)	(0.34,0,0.94)
$\lambda_3$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	1.9(6)	1.2(6)	0.8(6)	0.7(6)	0.5(6)	0.4(6)	0.4(6)
$ev_3$ ( $\lambda_3$ )	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)
$\Psi, \theta(^{\circ})^a$	119(5), -19(5)	116(5), -16(5)	114(4), -14(4)	112(4), -13(4)	111(4), -12(4)	110(3), -11(3)	110(3), -11(3)

<sup>a</sup> The major compression direction occurs in the (0 1 0) plane at the given angles  $\Psi$  to the  $c$ -axis (from  $c$  to  $a$ ) and  $\theta$  to the  $a$ -axis (from  $a$  to  $c$ ).

**Table S10.** Theoretical isothermal compressibility tensor coefficients,  $\beta_{ij}$ , and their eigenvalues,  $\lambda_i$ , and eigenvectors,  $ev_i$ , for B-type Tb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at several pressures. The results are given using the finite Eulerian method. The eigenvalues are given in decreasing value along a column.

$P(\text{GPa})$	0.0	2.0	4.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	11.0
$\beta_{11}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)	3.3(3)
$\beta_{22}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	2.0(4)	1.6(4)	1.2(4)	1.0(4)	0.8(4)	0.7(4)	0.7(4)
$\beta_{33}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	2.2(3)	2.08(22)	2.02(22)	1.96(22)	1.90(22)	1.85(21)	1.82(18)
$\beta_{13}$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	-0.77(9)	-0.81(9)	-0.85(9)	-0.91(9)	-0.97(9)	-1.05(10)	-1.09(8)
$\lambda_1$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	3.7(4)	3.7(3)	3.7(3)	3.8(3)	3.8(3)	3.9(3)	3.9(4)
$ev_1$ ( $\lambda_1$ )	(0.89,0,-0.46)	(0.89,0,-0.45)	(0.89,0,-0.45)	(0.89,0,-0.45)	(0.89,0,-0.45)	(0.89,0,-0.46)	(0.89,0,-0.47)
$\lambda_2$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	2.0(5)	1.67(19)	1.59(19)	1.50(19)	1.40(18)	1.30(18)	1.25(19)
$ev_2$ ( $\lambda_2$ )	(0,1,0)	(0.45,0,0.89)	(0.45,0,0.89)	(0.45,0,0.89)	(0.45,0,0.89)	(0.46,0,0.89)	(0.47,0,0.89)
$\lambda_3$ ( $10^{-3} \text{ GPa}^{-1}$ )	1.8(3)	1.6(4)	1.2(4)	1.0(4)	0.8(4)	0.7(4)	0.7(4)
$ev_3$ ( $\lambda_3$ )	(0.46,0,0.89)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)	(0,1,0)
$\Psi, \theta(^{\circ})^a$	117(3), -17(3)	117(3), -17(3)	117(3), -17(3)	116.7(2.4), -16.9(2.4)	117.0(2.2), -17.4(2.2)	117.5(2.1), -18.0(2.1)	117.7(1.8), -18.4(1.8)

<sup>a</sup> The major compression direction occurs in the (0 1 0) plane at the given angles  $\Psi$  to the  $c$ -axis (from  $c$  to  $a$ ) and  $\theta$  to the  $a$ -axis (from  $a$  to  $c$ ).

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